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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for generating localizable message catalogs for Java-based applications is disclosed. Message catalogs that are automatically flagged for what needs to be manually translated are generated from a given Java source code file, which can then be used for translation. ListResourceBundle data structures that are compatible with Java's internationalization model are also generated from the message catalogs that were previously generated and manually translated into desired local language(s). This provides a more efficient means of maintaining a language-specific version of Java software after it has been released.